

Drought Contingency Plan Workshops for USFS and BLM Permittees

NEW Workshop presentations are available online at http://rightrisk.org/presentations/2014_05_06_DroughtRisk/. Click the link to view:

- Drought Management - Dallas Mount, UW Extension Platte County
- Managing Drought Risk and Tools to Evaluate Your Strategy - John Hewlett, UW Extension
- Communication Strategies Between Permittees and Federal Agencies - WDA Staff

If you'd like to receive a copy of the handouts and other workshop material, please contact Lucy Pauley at (307) 777-8788 or by email at lucy.pauley@wyo.gov

Recently, the Wyoming Department of Agriculture hosted a series of workshops across the state to help USFS and BLM permittees develop drought contingency plans for their grazing permits. Partners for this project included the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, the Wyoming Association of Conservation District, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service, and the Wyoming State Grazing Board.

The goals of the workshops were to help participants understand the role drought contingency plans play with respect to their grazing permit and the importance of developing a plan. Participants also learned about improving dialogue with federal agencies and better understanding the financial impacts of proactive planning for drought by comparing cost-savings of contingency plan to costs for emergency feed, transportation, etc. Presentations and panel discussions provided an opportunity to hear from other permittees about best management practices and resources in their own region to help address these issues.

Agenda topics included:

- The financial impacts of proactive drought planning
- Understanding resilience in a dry, variable climate and how to plan for the next dry years
- Communication strategies between permittees and federal agencies
- What's in your agency file?
- Learn more about the resources in your area to address range management and monitoring assistance, technical expertise, the roles of your local Cooperative Extension Service and Conservation Districts, and more.

If you have any questions, please contact Lucy Pauley at (307) 777-8788 or email lucy.pauley@wyo.gov

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